

# Hughey Jennings Denies Report of Feds' Offer Tennis Committee Meets

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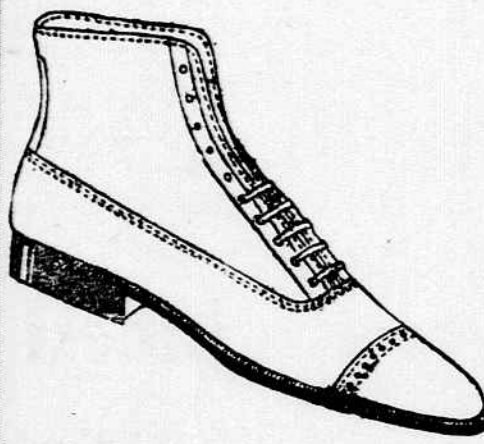


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**Davis' Team Increases Lead.**

Joe Davis' team last night increased its lead in the bi-weekly athletic contests at the Y. M. C. A., while the captain himself drew farther away from his competitors in the individual race. The standing of the teams follows: Davis' team, 1,716; Roberts' team, 1,687; Shipley's team, 1,332; Buehler's team, 1,291. The individual standing is: Davis, 576; Shipley, 489; Roberts, 461; Buehler, 456; Knicker, 413; Thompson, 229; McLartin, 219; Harris, 241; Baslin, 241; Duncan, 219; Buehler, 256; Allen, 228; Farwell, 227 and Stevens, 78.

Now that Yale has come to realize that the "one man rule system" is the one that leads to success, the Cincinnati ball club should fall in line.

**HUGH JENNINGS HOTLY DENIES HE WILL FLOP TO FEDERALS**  
 Reiterates His Pledge of Loyalty to Detroit, Organized Base Ball and Frank Navin.

NEW YORK, December 3.—Hugh Jennings, manager of the Detroit Tigers, exploded a newspaper hoax sent out of Chicago yesterday to the effect that he would manage the New York Federal League. The story, attributed to Harry F. Sinclair of the Newark Federals, the assertion that Jennings was slated for the job of piloting the Gotham outlaws. Also it connected Sinclair as one of the principal backers of the local independent enterprise. "I do not know where that absurdity originated," said Jennings, as he was about to leave for his Scranton, Pa., home last evening. "But it is a pipe dream pure and simple. I do not propose to allow the Federal League to advertise itself through me. I never have received any offer from the Federal League and would not consider one if I did—not even if it offered me the whole league to turn traitor to organized base ball."

"I am perfectly satisfied with my lot in Detroit," continued Jennings. "I am under contract to Frank J. Navin, the club president. Our relations are most cordial. I would not desert him if I were free to do so."

"Butting His Head on Stone Wall."

"In my estimation the Federal League is butting its head against a stone wall. Goodness knows how it ever did get men to buy stock in it. It is a foolish venture. I cannot realize how Gilmore and his associates can ever interest sane people to promote this club in Manhattan. They may be able to do it. They have fooled me before, but they shall not do it again. In this instance, though I surely think they are bluffing about New York."

"But in any event," said Jennings, "the Federal League is not going to make any capital out of me. Evidently some one seized upon my chance visit to New York as an opportunity to worry organized base ball. Well, organized base ball has no occasion to worry about Hughie Jennings' loyalty."

Jennings explained that he was in town to report to Frank J. Navin on the success of his quest for a spring training camp. He has selected Waxahatchie, Tex., a small city possessed of a fine hotel, mineral baths and excellent railway and interurban connections with the best base ball cities of the Lone Star State. Hugh had intended to return to Scranton by way of Detroit to make his report to Navin. The latter came to New York for the Navy game, and wired the manager to come to New York instead. Navin outboarded Jennings' statements in toto last night. He said Jennings was not under written contract to the Detroit club. Hugh signed only one contract; that was in 1906, when he assumed the management of the Tigers. Subsequent contracts have been entered into, but they have been verbal. Navin declares that Jennings' word is good enough for him.

**DIFFICULT TO CHOOSE LEADING TENNIS MAN**  
 National Association Ranking Committee Meets to Select Country's Best Players.

NEW YORK, December 3.—The ranking committee of the United States National Lawn Tennis Association, which met today to arrange the leading players of the country, according to the performances of last season, faced unusual difficulties. The meeting originally was set for November 18, but it was postponed until today because the members of the committee desired more time to review the records of the leading contenders for first place on the list.

The principal question before the committee is whether William M. Johnston, the young San Francisco player who took the championship from Spencer Williams, should be ranked as number one. Those who favored placing Williams, the defeated champion, at the head of the list pointed to the precedent of 1914, when Williams defeated Maurice E. McLoughlin for the championship, but McLoughlin was ranked first on the official list.

**DE ORO HAS THE LEAD.**  
 Captures First Game of Series From Kieckhefer, Score 50 to 28.

CHICAGO, December 3.—Alfred de Oro, New York, defeated August Kieckhefer, the challenger for the world's three-cushion billiard title, 50 to 28, last night in the first block of their three nights' match. De Oro went out in sixty-three innings. His high run was five, but he had two other clusters of four. Kieckhefer had one inning less and his best run was three. De Oro won the bank and selected the black ball. He made the opening shot and was never caught afterward, although he was hit by the champion's progress. The champion never shot in better form, while Kieckhefer was badly off his game.

**WANT BIG FIGHTS IN SOUTH.**  
 Baron Mihanovich Here to Arrange for Bouts at Buenos Aires.

NEW YORK, December 3.—Millonare South American sportsman are planning for a pugilistic carnival to be held at Buenos Aires, Argentina, in which the four boxing champions of the world will be contested. Within the next two weeks the sum of \$125,000 will be deposited in a local bank to be used in four purses, and the additional sum of \$75,000 to cover traveling, training and advertising expenses of pugilists and promoters.

**Shortstop Jennings Engaged to Be Married This Month**  
 MINNEAPOLIS, December 3.—Hugh Jennings, who shortstopped for the Minneapolis Millers this season and will get another trial with Washington in the spring, has announced his engagement to Miss Elizabeth Autrey of Columbus, Ark. The wedding will be the latter part of this month. Jennings is a foot ball coach at Onaschita College in Arkansas, and the bride-to-be has been a student at that college, and it was there he became acquainted with her.

**GABBY DE LIES.**  
 SH-H-H! HST! SHUSH!  
 THE FEDS HAVE BOUGHT THE GIANTS—TY COBB HAS RETIRED FROM BASEBALL—THE RED SOX RELEASED LEWIS AND HOOPER. MATTY TO MANAGE THE NEW YORK FEDS—AND JUDGE LANDIS WILL HAND DOWN THAT DECISION WITHIN THE NEXT 10 YEARS. ETC., ETC.



**Pertinent Comment on Happenings in Sportdom**  
 By J. ED GRILLO.

The announcement by Sinclair, the moneyed man of the Federal League, that the management of the New York Fed club would be tendered to Hughie Jennings is not going to scare any one in organized base ball. He has never violated any sort of an agreement organized base ball. He has never violated any sort of an agreement in his career. Regardless of what figures the Feds might offer Jennings he can be counted on to stand with organized base ball, which has been decidedly kind to him.

To those who know Jennings his denial of any intention to accept an offer, if it were given, was unnecessary.

Incidentally, the report that Finley Shepard, the husband of Helen Gould, was the backer of the Fed venture in New York was denied by that gentleman, who declares he has no intention of investing a penny in any base ball proposition.

A lot of reports probably will be spread by the Feds this winter, but they are something more substantial than talk is presented there is nothing certain about the independents carrying out their threat to invade Manhattan Island.

After having received permission from Connie Mack to negotiate with Frank Baker, Bill Donovan and Capt. Huston went to see the famous slugger, but soon found that Baker's idea of the battle to be fought was to defend what any club will play him. This probably means that Baker will remain in the independent league for another season, for his contract with the Philadelphia club does not expire until the end of the season of 1916, which would prevent him from jumping to the Feds until season after next. In the meantime Baker is very apt to be rendered his own man, for he will not be playing in the company which will give him the right sort of practice. It would therefore not be at all surprising if after virtually being out of the game for two seasons Baker should determine to quit the Feds and to render him unable to fill a major league berth.

There is no chance for the New York club paying the exorbitant salary which Baker demands. In the first place, it remains to be shown that Baker is not to be signed. It is understood that Mack's team, Baker is no longer a youngster, and the fact that he did not stand in a real league last season may have caused him to go back considerably.

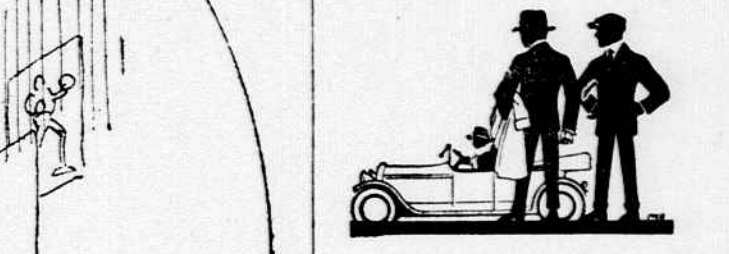
**WELSH AND WHITE TO MEET FOR LIGHTWEIGHT TITLE.**  
 NEW YORK, December 3.—Freddie Welsh and Charley White agreed to fight Charley White of Chicago a bout of twenty or more rounds for the lightweight championship of the world.

The fight will be held within the next eight weeks. An agreement was signed yesterday by managers for the pugilists and forfeits of \$1,000 each posted. The fight will be held before the club offering the best inducements. Bids will be opened December 16.

Welsh and White agree to make 135 pounds at 2 o'clock the afternoon of the fight, or, in case the battle takes place in the afternoon, to weigh in 135 pounds at 10 a.m. A further \$1,500 each is to be placed in the hands of a stakeholder for the appearance of the fighters, making \$2,500 each.

The fight will be waged under Marquis of Queensbury rules, and both fighters have agreed not to take on any other match before the championship fight is decided. The referee has not yet been selected.

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**BIG SCRAP MARCH 3.**  
 Date Set for Willard-Fulton Bout in New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, December 3.—Jess Willard will meet Fred Fulton of Boston, Minn., in a twenty-round bout here March 3 for the heavyweight championship of the world, according to an announcement last night by promoters of the match.

Willard signed articles here several weeks ago to meet any white fighter the promoters might name by December 10. Efforts were made to arrange an elimination bout between Fulton and Frank Moran of Pittsburgh, but, according to the promoters, Moran refused to meet the Minnesota pugilist, and was notified that if he did not agree by December 10 to do so the bout would be given to Fulton. Fulton previously had signed articles to meet Willard in the event Moran refused the elimination bout.

Willard's contract calls for \$32,500 win, lose or draw. Terms arranged with Fulton were not announced.

**BOXERS SIGN ARTICLES.**  
 Welsh and White to Meet for Lightweight Title.

**RED SOX PRESIDENT DECLARES STAR WILL REMAIN WITH BOSTON.**  
 BOSTON, December 3.—President J. J. Lannin of the Red Sox stated positively last night that Tris Speaker would be with the team next season, and others besides.

"All this talk about 'Spoke' being a holdout is rot. Every one knows that he has not signed up for 1916, in fact, the signature of Ernest Shore was the only one I made any effort to get after the season closed," said President Lannin. "Speaker has assured me that he was coming to Boston right after the new year. I told him we would finish up our business then. He and I will have no trouble at all in coming to terms."

"Once again let me spike that story about Baker coming here to get a cornered deal which involves Gardner going to Philadelphia. I don't care whether the Highlanders get Frank Baker or not. I intend to hold on to Gardner, as he has proved a pretty reliable man to have around when a hit is needed, and his work during the recent world series was really phenomenal. He will do for the Red Sox, especially as I intend to keep my team intact."

"The only two men on my club who may in future be classed under the title of holdouts are pitchers who failed to come anywhere near earning their money last season. They will have to pay the reckoning in 1916."

**CARPENTIER IS DECORATED.**  
 Europe's Champion Pugilist Given Military Cross for Bravery.

PARIS, December 3.—Serg. Georges Carpentier, champion heavyweight pugilist of Europe, now attached to the French Aviation Corps, has been decorated with the military cross for brilliant and daring reconnoissances in an aeroplane.

Carpentier joined the colors when war was declared, and has been in the thick of the fighting ever since. He was first with the signal service, and twice had his apparatus blown away by German shells. Later he became an automobile courier on the firing line, and then was assigned to the Aviation Corps last May.

Carpentier's last important pugilistic achievement was to win from Gusztav Smith on a foul in London in six rounds July 16, 1914.